

TERMS.

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Not in the time of the Autumn's prime,
With a rustle of golden leaves;
But wrapped in the folds of the venture cold
Of the Winter's depths profound.

All soft and white, like a mantle bright,
On the landscape lies the snow;
And the icy breeze through the forest trees
Sweeps drearily to and fro.

The fair child listens with earnest ear—
A wondering heart hath he:
"Thou hast many a thought for the New Year,
O, what hast thou brought for me?"

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The Christian listens with hope and fear,
For a humble heart hath he—
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O ye, to whom on the shores of time
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Not unto you is the boon of heaven,
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Eternity's joy shall come to last,
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"If thou faint in the day of adversity thy strength is small."
"And this is your decision?"
"Yes, Mr. Stowell, and I have made it calmly, deliberately. I cannot marry a man I do not love."

"And yet, Mary, permit me to ask you once more to reconsider it. You are a sensible girl, and I can talk with you candidly on this subject. I do not demand or expect any romantic girl's affection from my wife, only the respect and attention due my position as her husband. I want a wife who shall preside with grace and elegance over the luxurious home I shall provide for her. The offer I have made you is sufficient proof of my ability to do this, and remember what different lives are this moment placed within your choice."

"On the one hand, a kind and attentive, if not a lover husband, with wealth sufficient to gratify your highest pride and ambition, to indulge all your exquisite tastes and deep love for the beautiful, and make your outer life, at least, all the brightness and poetry you have dreamed of."

"And now look the other side fully in the face. You cannot disguise from yourself the real truth—poverty and suffering must await you. The last penny of your father's property is gone—I know this from the creditors; and your mother's very precarious health will not permit her making any exertion in your behalf. What will become of her, your young brother and sisters. All the exertion will, of course, fall upon you, and how can you go out and brave the winter and the storms—you who have been so tenderly loved and cherished all your life? Forgive me, Mary, that I have spoken the truth so plainly, and now, in conclusion, I ask you once more to reconsider your decision."

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I leave it to those who have never been tried to sneer and condemn her. He sat there, watching anxiously the questions that passed over my face. He loved me as he did his new stone house, or his pet horses, or anything else that illustrated his money—his money!—his god!

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THE PASSENGERS OF THE NEW YORK.—Capt. McKinnon and about one hundred and twenty of the passengers of the ship New York, wrecked at Squam Beach, arrived in New York Wednesday forenoon. The passengers are mostly German and Irish emigrants. They suffered terribly from the cold after they landed, there being but a little shelter on the beach, and it was a long way to the main land. The passengers corroborate the statements of the captain and first mate relative to the brutal conduct of the crew in beating the captain. Nearly all the mutineers have been arrested and locked up at Freehold, N. J. One of them is said to have been found on the beach the next morning, frozen to death. The injuries of the captain, though severe, are said to be not so bad as at first supposed.

Hunt's Merchants' Magazine contains a very able article on the subject of quarantine, written by Dr. A. N. Bell, of Brooklyn. Dr. Bell was formerly a surgeon in the United States service, and has had favorable opportunities for investigating the subject of which he treats. His view is, that infectious diseases are propagated by things, and not by persons; and he therefore argues against a quarantine as applied to the latter, who should be cleansed from infectious things, and allowed the freedom of travel. He recommends the building of a large warehouse at a sufficient distance from the city, where every infected ship should be unladen, and then purified and allowed to proceed on its voyage, or go to sea again.

A lawyer, once, retained in case of assault and battery, was cross-examining a witness in relation to the force of a blow struck—"What kind of a blow was given?" "A blow of the common kind." "Describe the blow." "I am not good at description. I cannot." "You must." "I won't." The lawyer appealed to the court. The court told the witness that if the counsel insisted upon his showing what kind of a blow it was, he must do so. "Do you insist upon it?" asked the witness. "I do." "Well, then, since you compel me to show you, it was this kind of a blow" at the same time striking the action to the wall, and knocking over the astonished disciple of Coke upon Littleton.—*Salem for the Social.*

FROZEN TO DEATH.—A correspondent of the *London Transcript* writes from Philadelphia, Me., as follows: "I found dead in his wood-shed, on the 18th inst., Mr. John Doyen, of Avon, Me., aged about 74 years, supposed to have frozen to death in the night. It appears that he attempted to get some wood in the evening, as there was found near him part of a candle and a candlestick. He was found lying upon his face, with a white wound upon the forehead, with the appearance of some struggling in the attempt to arise. There were none in his family capable of giving the alarm. He was found sometime in the forenoon, by a neighbor."

Mr. Doyen was a man of temperate habits, but of more than ordinary natural abilities. During the Washington reform he was an active and uncompromising laborer in the cause of temperance and was chosen President of the Franklin County Washington Society. But he afterwards relapsed. He was the father of the noted "Helen Jewett," who was murdered in New York many years ago.

THE CASH SYSTEM.—The editor of the *Saco Democrat* has turned over a new leaf, and adopted the system of advance payments. Hereafter all who wish to read the *Democrat* must pay the cash down at the time of subscribing. Fourteen years experience of the losses by worthless subscribers, long delay in payment and expenses in collecting have convinced him of the credit system and induced this change. His experience is that of all other newspaper publishers. Many thousands of dollars lost every year by the present system. We have men on our books who have been reading our paper year after year, without a thought of paying for it. We should like to have a consultation of Maine publishers in this matter, and a general agreement to adopt the cash system. To be effectually carried out it must be adopted by all.

UNCLE BENJAMIN'S SERMON.—Not many hours ago, I heard Uncle Benjamin discussing this matter to his son, who was complaining of pressure. "Rely upon it, Sammy," said the old man, as he leaned on his staff, with his gray locks flowing in the morning breeze, "murmuring pays no bills. I have been an observer many times, these fifty years, and I never saw a man helped out of a hole by cursing his horses. Be as quiet as you can, for nothing will grow under a moving harrow, and discontent harrows the mind. Matters are bad, I acknowledge, but no one is better for being fingered. The more you groan the poorer you grow. Repining at losses is only putting pepper on a sore eye. Crops will fail in all soils, and we may be thankful we have not famine. Besides, I always took notice that whenever I felt a rod pretty smartly, it was as much as to say, 'here is something which you have got to learn.' Sammy, do not forget that your schooling is not over yet, though you have a wife and two children."

A BATTLE FIELD FOR SALE.—The battle field of Marengo, with its palatial monuments, its rich museum of precious objects, and its richer historic souvenirs, is now offered at public auction in the streets of Paris.

The domain of Marengo is situated near Alexandria in Piedmont, on the line of the railroad between Genoa and Turin, and contains about two hundred and fifty acres of ground, vines, woods and fields, watered by the Seria. The monumental palace destined to perpetuate the memory of the glorious battle of Marengo gained in 1800 by Napoleon, was built by the Chevalier Delavio contains furniture, objects of art, paintings and statues, commemorative of the battle, and a museum composed of objects which belonged to Napoleon and Desaix, and arms found on the field of battle. This museum is collected in the old tavern which stood on the ground before the battle, and around which the palace is built.

For the information of foreigners, ambitious for Italian residence and for Bonapartists' souvenirs, I should add that the upset price of the whole property is 600,000 francs, and that there is a good mill privilege on the premises.—*Cor. N. Y. Times.*

"Eighty cents per Gal." exclaimed Mrs. Partington's cousin, Miss Dusenbury, as she saw the sign "Fresh Oysters at 80 cents per gal." at Freeman's, near the P. O. "Eighty cents per Gal!" Either the men are mighty poor, or else the gals have regenerated since my day. When I was young, they used to work out at nine shillings a week; and now they only bring eight cents, besides all the California gold that's been brought into the country it must be them hooped gowns nobody popular—else you wouldn't catch anybody offering so low a price as that—and Dame Dusenbury passed on, pondering on the "regeneration" of the wives, and the magnitude of female dresses.

Gas.—The gas works at Eastport are in operation, and, for the first time the town was lighted with gas on Monday evening, Dec. 15.

The Rockland Gazette,

Thursday Evening, Jan. 1, 1857.

The Next Legislature.

Next week the Legislature of Maine meets at Augusta. Already have members engaged rooms and made other necessary preparations to be in readiness to serve the State through their delegated authority from the electors of Maine. Although our laws have been changed, altered, amended and revised; now ones made and old ones repealed, and this process having been gone through with for so many years, one would suppose that something like perfection in our Statutes had been attained, or might have been reached, yet the large amount of legislation usually done at each session, shows that either the law or the Legislators are in fault, and a careful examination into the history of both will demonstrate that both law givers and laws are and have been equally defective, and that perfection cannot be reached any more among the honorables of our land, than by those in the humbler walks of life.

Much is expected of the incoming State administration, and we hope our expectations may be realized—we will call attention to some matters upon which we hope to see some good, wholesome and sound legislation.

In the first place the laws in relation to our volunteer militia are somewhat defective, or rather do not go far enough, inasmuch as there is no provision for the pay of its members for the military duty which they perform. Would it not be well; may, is it not wrong to put the gentlemen who compose our military companies to the large expense of equipping and uniforming themselves and to oblige them to perform camp duties two or three days yearly besides the annual training, and to subject them to the large expense unaidably attending these things, without a single cent from the State, to enable them to do so?

Would it not be well to arrange matters so that each soldier would receive, say, \$1.50 for every day he is on duty, and then make the penalty for non-appearance a somewhat larger sum, so that our militia may be prompt, reliable and effective? It is useless to argue the justice of remunerating these gentlemen, in a measure, for their services and for the onerous expenses accompanying our citizen soldiery, and we point out this one defect in the law, merely to call the attention of our citizens and of our Legislature to all the law in reference to it, that they in this respect and in many other points may legislate with profit to themselves and justice to our State.

There is another matter which is of vital interest to persons in this community, and concerning which something ought to be done.—We refer to the slow and unsatisfactory manner that Bank Receivers do their business, or rather neglect to do it. We are informed that Receivers' receipts for money deposited, were given by those to whom was committed the authority of closing up "Peter Funk" institution in our midst, as long ago as June, 1855, and that up to this time no efforts have been made by them to settle up its affairs. The consequence is that the holders of receipts are now really suffering—our city is suffering, in a business point of view, for the use of the money, whatever may be the dividend, now due and remaining unpaid upon the same. Cannot our lawgivers devise some plan which will compel the Receivers of Banks, to settle up and pay their indebtedness, and not suffer them to dilly-dally along until their fees and charges shall have eaten up all the funds which are left, after those who caused the suspension of the institution shall first have filled their pockets? Will the Legislature see to this matter?

Again let us examine the Statutes in relation to poor debtors. A law was passed last winter enabling a person who was arrested on execution, if both parties reside in the place where execution was obtained, to disclose upon the same in twenty-four hours, relieving them of the necessity of giving bond. Are we not going a little too far in legislating for people to cheat their creditors? Is not the heart of man naturally corrupt enough? Will he not devise means and methods by which he may enjoy the fruit of another's labor without every Leg. Statute which convenes at Augusta, spending their valuable time in legislating the same? One would suppose by the pains that is taken and the amount of legislation expended in enabling one man to cheat and defraud his neighbor of goods and property, that mankind were inclined to be too honest and would, if left to themselves, attempt to pay their debts and give to all their just dues, when the good book informs us, that mankind are "prone to evil as the sparks are to fly upward," and every man's own experience shows that without any legislating on the subject, it frequently happens that one person enjoys property, goods and riches not his own, and in such a manner that the owner cannot possibly reach the same.

We expect by and by that the creditor in an action will be obliged to make up to the debtor when he does not possess the same, all the articles enumerated as being exempt from attachment, and when this arrives and it is fast approaching, then indeed will it be true that the richer a man is, the poorer he is, and the poorer man, the richer.

In Legislating for the poor debtor, gentlemen, do not altogether lose sight of the poor creditor. Again the legal regulations respecting the choice of Presidential Electors are in rather a loose way. It appears that the aggregate vote rejected by the Secretary of State because of the same not reaching him in season, amounts to 2,995 votes, which gives a plurality for Fremont of 823; and in view of obtaining a similar occurrence the Kennebec Journal makes the following sensible suggestions:

In anything like a close election, the returns rejected as above might change the result, and their not being counted in such an event, would create a wide-spread and deep dissatisfaction.—It is to be observed also, that the returns are merely sent through the Post Office to the Secretary, and his word is to decide whether they have been received or not within the prescribed time, the law, therefore, as it stands, puts in the power of a dishonest Secretary to destroy or withhold, or post-date a sufficient number of returns to alter the result, at any time when the vote should be close. The bare possibility of this happening, should itself be guarded against by additional legislation.

A remedy of this kind, suggests itself as being sufficient for the evil—viz. Require the returns to be made, as now, to the Secretary of State, or before a certain day, previous to the meeting of the Governor and Council, and direct the Secretary to dispatch a special messenger to each delinquent town for its vote, the expense of such messenger to be added to the State tax of said delinquent towns. This being in the nature of a penalty for neglect of duty, would tend to insure promptitude, and in case of a Post Office failure or miscarriage, would remove the danger of any vote not being counted.

The above sections are not the only ones in this act which require examination and amendment, the whole chapter regulating Presidential elections seems to be crude and ill-digested, and we commend it to the careful revision of the incoming Legislature.

The circulation of the N. Y. Tribune is 278,000.

Christmas—Its Ancient Customs.

Christmas! what beautiful recollections are brought to our memory on the annual approach of the day on which the Saviour was born, how vividly we picture all the old associations connected with it, and with what endearment we cherish its thousand legends as, in these modern days, while seated in our easy chairs, we talk over the pastimes of the twelve merry days of Christmas, kept so loyally by our less enlightened but more zealous, if not more honest, ancestors.

Christmas! we love thee dearly, not only for thy sacred associations, but for thy old and beautiful historic recollections.

Among the primitive Christians, the festival of the Saviour's birth was ushered in by the display of a calm, religious feeling, unmingled with the consideration of more worldly enjoyments; but in the course of time, when this important feast of the Christian Church had come to be incorporated with those heathen rites of the northern nations, which were celebrated toward the end of the year, it degenerated, for the most part, into a mere display of boisterous festivity, such as it during the Anglo-Saxon period, and such it continued under the line of Norman kings; though one good feature connected with the celebration of the Christmas festival by these later monarchs, was the practice of assembling upon the occasion the prelates and nobles of the kingdom, when the general affairs of the country were taken into consideration. As a relief however to these grave deliberations the guests were feasted with a series of grand banquets, where they were served with "meat and drink in great plenty" for we find it recorded, that at several of the entertainments of the period, as many as thirty thousand dishes were set before the furnished guests. Many of the dishes would no doubt, be regarded as questionable by modern tastes; but our ancestors loved them. The favorite dish was, however, the boar's head of which much has been spoken and sung. Days thus spent in feasting and deliberation gave place to nights of revelry at which unquiescent mummings, varied with games of chance, and tricks of jugglers and mountebanks, formed the chief features of the evening's entertainment. A continual round of pleasure was thus kept up throughout the twelve days forming the feast of Yule.

The earliest writers on the festivities of the Christmas season speak of the custom of decking houses and churches with evergreens, and therefore it appears to us that it must be of very ancient date, it being in fact, one of those ancient remnants of paganism, which, although forbidden by the councils of the early Christian Church, had obtained too great a hold of the prejudices of the people to be readily relinquished, as its transmission down to the present day, all over Europe, serves to prove.

We have space for only one or two extracts further; the whole article, as indeed others in the number will be found deeply interesting and will well repay a perusal.

The following may excite a smile. It refers to the times of Elizabeth. The lawyers, in the days of which we write were not without a share in the popular amusements, and, if we are to believe the records handed down to us, at times acted in the most vulgar and unbecoming manner. That they were addicted to swearing, and taking the name of the Lord in vain, and were in other respects very disorderly fellows, we have positive proof from the following order of the minutes kept in that day in the Temple. It runs thus:

"That no gentleman, of this society, nor any other, by appointment, choice, or assent of any gentleman of this house, should in time of Christmas, or any other time, take upon him or use the name, place, or commandment of the Lord; or any such like; or break open any chamber; or disorderly molest or abuse any fellows or officers of this house, within the precincts of the same, upon pain to be expelled for the abuse or disorder."

The lawyers of the Temple kept the day, or days, most merrily and indeed so did all the profession in London.

The following in reference to the hospitality of such feasts may be worthy of imitation in some degree. It is from the pen of Addison.—He tells us that "Sir Roger do Coverdale adopted the laudable custom of his ancestors in keeping open house at Christmas," and adds—

"He killed eight fat hogs for that season, had dealt about his chimneys very liberally among his neighbors, and, in particular he had sent a string of hogs puddings with a pack of cards for every poor family in the parish. 'I have often thought' said Sir Roger 'it happens very well that Christmas should slide out in the middle of the winter. It is the most dead uncomfortable time of the year when the poor people would suffer very much from their poverty and cold if they had not good cheer, warm fires and Christmas gambols to support them. I love to rejoice their poor hearts at this season and to see the whole village merry at my great hall.'"

From the same authority we learn that one of the favorite gambles on such occasions as the one above described was yawning for a Cheshire cheese.

The proceedings generally begun about midnight when the whole company were more or less disposed to be drowsy, and he that yawned the widest, and at the same time as naturally as to produce the most yawns among the spectators was proclaimed the victor and carried home the cheese as his reward.

The Christian will respond to the following:—But the picturesque ceremonies and rude festivities that distinguished the Christians of bygone days have passed away, and we cannot say we regret them. Too thankful ought we to be to have lighted on a more civilized age, and to have escaped the troubles and dangers and miseries with which the good old times were so thickly beset. The mummings of our ancestors, the Yule Log, and the Wassail Bowl are beyond revival and where the Christmas Carol is fast falling into disuse. The practice of decking churches and houses may now be said to be the only existing custom of old Christmas. It is decidedly the most honest.

SENTENCE OF FIVE YOUNG MEN FOR INCENDIARISM.—Five young men of Portland, who have been convicted of incendiarism in consequence of one of their associates, named Worcester, turning State's evidence, have received their sentence, as follows:—John Burns and Isaac B. Pendergast, seven years in the State Prison; Samuel Burns five years—Luke Makin three years—Gould one year.

The Argus says.—They were all smart looking young men, and were well qualified by ability to make their mark in society, as good and useful citizens. They chose a different course, and find their houses—in the State Prison. Their course has been brief,—in close confinement and in which it would be well for young men to consider.

It will be seen, by her advertisement, that the good little steamer Rockland, now at the Sanford is withdrawn, is again on the route between Portland and Frankfort. Passengers will find her and her officers not a whit behind those of larger pretensions.—She is one of the earliest boats that ever rode the waters, and always makes good time, which is all that should be asked of a winter boat.

BOOK NOTICES.

NEIGHBOR JACKWOOD. By Paul Cretton. Phillips, Sampson & Co., Boston. For sale by E. K. Spear.

"Father Brightshopes" and "Martin Merivale" which were from the pen of this same author, had an extensive sale; and they were indeed very agreeable books. But Neighbor Jackwood is an improvement on all of his former stories. Paul Cretton has a wonderful faculty of sketching a Yankee scene, and there is always something very natural and life-like in all that he describes. As a volume for a winter evening we can hardly think of one more agreeable, or which will leave the reader in a more agreeable mood. Paul Cretton will bear acquaintance, and we hope this new volume will make him still better known to the reading public.

RELIGIOUS TRUTH. Illustrated from Science, Addressed and Sermon on Special Occasions, By Edward Hitchcock D. D. L. D. late President of Amherst College, and now Professor of Natural Theology and Geology.

Phillips, Sampson & Co., have just brought out this handsome volume which will be received with a hearty welcome by all who are acquainted with the scientific attainments of its author. The book contains wholly or for the most part addresses and sermons delivered on various occasions, and they present some phase of scientific questions of uncommon interest. The writer has lucidly and beautifully set forth his views, and at the same time has furnished a rich fund of information. In both a religious and scientific point of view the work is successful, and will at once take a high rank among the new books of the season.

STORIES FOR CHRISTMAS AND WINTER EVENINGS. G. P. Putnam & Co., N. Y.

This new book is published as one of "Putnam's Library of Choice Stories" of which "The Baked Head" published a few months ago was one. The stories contained in this new volume are capital, and the merits need only to be known to give the book a wide circulation among those who like occasionally to read a good story. We would not recommend too much "light reading," but a sprinkling of such reading as is contained in this series of Putnam will do no body any harm, but on the contrary will have a good effect. Spear has the book for sale.

PUTNAM'S MONTHLY for the New Year opens fluently, and the character of the Magazine continues to be well sustained. The best talent in the country is employed by the publishers, who exercise every effort to secure a constant variety in its attractions. Its summary of Literature, Morals, Politics, and the Times, its publishers announce, will be as Catholic as is consonant with its aim of being the representative of the American mind.

The January number has an excellent supply of reading matter, and we hope those who are well enough to subscribe for the Magazine will begin with the new volume of which this is the first number.

SOUTHERN NEWS—Fire and Murder. BALTIMORE, Dec. 27. The Southern mail today brings nothing South of Mobile.

The literary stable of Thomas Stevens at Savannah, was broken up, and forty horses perished. In the recent accident by collision on the Virginia Central Railroad, both locomotives and six cars were destroyed, and five negroes and two whites injured. Only one had died at last accounts.

George Green was murdered near Gainesville, Va., on Christmas evening, and his body burnt by his negroes.

DARK DAYS IN LONDON AND PARIS.—The Paris correspondent of the New York Journal of Commerce, under date of Nov. 20, says:—Weather so dark that we can scarcely distinguish our pens; superabundant of rain, with mild temperature; cold even at Marseilles; the condition of our streets inexpressible; the North-east of France and half of Belgium covered with snow; Frenchmen just returned from the British metropolis declare that the Londoners had not seen each other, except by artificial light, for three consecutive days; a fine time this for the sixteen thousand nine hundred criminal depredators at large in London; the number says the Morning Post, known to the Police; we may presume that there are nearly as many more unknown.

PREACHING BY PRACTICE.—It is related of Benjamin Franklin, that he formed a resolution never to give anything to a begging clergyman, and on a certain occasion went to hear the Rev. Mr. Whitfield preach, a charity sermon, with that resolution firmly fixed on his mind; but after listening to him for some time, he concluded that as the object for which he was preaching was a good one, he would give the copiers he had in his pocket, after he had heard some time longer, he concluded that he would add the silver he had in the purse to the copiers; but when the master preacher had finished his discourse, and the plate was handed around, Franklin untied his purse, and, holding it upside down, he poured out silver, gold, and all, into the plate. The author of "Poor Richard" was inconsistent with his teachings, for once in his life, at all events to his own credit.

MR. BENTON IN A FACTORY BOARDING HOUSE.—Mr. Benton, in his late visit called at a factory boarding house, Lowell, which she describes as follows: "They live in large, airy, elegant houses, and you enter in the same manner as you enter a parlor in Washington. You ring the bell and wait till the girl comes and opens it. You are shown into the parlor, where you see the same kind of furniture as you see in the Congress man's boarding house in Washington City. You sit down and inquire for whom you want. It was near dinner hour when I went up to one of these houses, and I carried my curiosity so far as to ask the mistress of the house to take me into the kitchen, and show me how she cooked. (Laughter.) She said she was taken unawares and was not prepared for it. I said that that was exactly the thing I wanted; I wanted to see it as it was every day. With our new system of cooking, and the new kind of meat, and there was cooking going on in a room so neat that I might sit there and carry on her sewing or ornamental work. This was the condition in which I found the houses of the operatives; and to all their comforts they add the leisure to read and cultivate the mind. I dwell upon that, fellow citizens, as one of the circumstances which struck me in my visit to New England."

A "MILKY WAY" AT SEA.—A lady, on her voyage to Calcutta, says the New York Observer, writes the following:—"When in the Gulf of Aden, we saw a very remarkable sight. It was a rough and blowy evening that we were called on deck to see the 'Milky Way,' which is only seen in this region. It is still undecided whether the effect is produced by electricity, by atmospheric causes, or by animalcules. Instead of water, it seemed as if the vessel were plunging through great drifts of snow. The appearance extended even to the horizon, and if the air had been colder, and I could have caught the sound of sleigh bells, I should have had but all idea of the sea, and I imagined myself enjoying a magnificent sleigh ride. It was a splendid sight; and it is very remarkable that no chemical analysis can detect any peculiarity in the composition of the water; and as soon as daylight or moonlight comes it vanishes. The milk was lasted for three nights, and then suddenly stopped; and every evening afterward the water was as usual."

GOLD DISCOVERIES IN CALIFORNIA.—A letter from Cayenne, of 5th November, in the *Havre Journal*, says that gold was being discovered every day, and in every direction. Thirty-five miners found 30,000 worth in one month.

Billie of the Exchange Bank, Bangor, are not received at the Suffolk Bank, Boston.

LATER FROM EUROPE.

NEW YORK, Dec. 27. The steamer Europa arrived at her dock at 4 o'clock, this P. M. Her dates from Liverpool are to the 13th, one day later than those of the Canada, via Halifax. She brings 60 passengers.

She passed the steamer Africa on the evening of the 25th, in lat. 41.9 N. long. 56.50. News correspondent.

The English troops had arrived in the Persian Gulf.

A despatch from Vienna states that France was mediating between the belligerents, and endeavoring to persuade Persia to yield to England.

FROM CALIFORNIA.

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—The steamer Illinois, from Aspinwall, arrived at this port this morning, with California dates of Dec. 5. She also had been performing her regular route, and nearly \$1,700,000 in treasure.

The Illinois connected with the Golden Gate, and left Aspinwall on the 10th inst. The U. S. frigate Wabash left 19th for New York via Havana. The sloop-of-war Cyane returned in port.

The California news is of but little interest. The reports from the mining districts are good, though there was still a want of rain in some districts.

The money market was unchanged. Richard P. Hammond, ex-collector of San Francisco, has been acquitted of the charge of defrauding the United States government while in office.

The news from Oregon and Washington Territory is unimportant. Advice from the Sandwich Islands are to Nov. 9. An unusually large number of whaling ships had arrived, most of which had been successful. The news from the whaling fleet is quite favorable. But few disasters are reported.

All who are in want of spikes should send their orders to Blodgett, Brown & Co., 60 & 82 Pearl st., for the celebrated *Burdett's Patent Bolt, Ship, Brad and Counterbore Railroad Spike*, which is as cheap as excellent.

A GALLANT SAILOR.—A telegraph dispatch from Provincetown states that the schooner Belcher, Capt. Verrill, of and from Rockland, with a cargo of line, went ashore about two miles from Race Point, yesterday morning, at 2 o'clock, and all hands would probably have been lost, but for the gallant daring of the mate, John Smith, who, in the face of a perfect storm, he jumped overboard with a line, and swam on shore with it. This enabled him to haul a rope on shore, and by it all hands were saved. The despatch does not give his name, but we hope the Humane Society will find it out, and reward him. All honor to him!

The schooner, at last account, was on fire, and would become a total loss.

The grandfather of Wm. H. Prescott, the historian, commanded the American forces atunker Hill, while the grandfather of his wife commanded a British ship of war which bombarded the American works in the same action. The historian has the sword of each, at his residence in Boston.

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Another Bloody Tragedy at the Massachusetts State Prison.

MURDER OF WARDEN TENNEY BY A CONVICT.

The Community Thrilled with Horror.

This noon we were called upon to record the almost incredible fact of another murder at the State Prison, which occurred about half-past three o'clock yesterday afternoon, just one fortnight to a day since the murder of Deputy Warden C. Walker in the same institution.

The victim of the last attack did not was Warden himself, Selon H. Tenney, who, as in the first instance, was stabbed in the neck by a convict.

The following are the circumstances of this astounding tragedy, which has fallen upon the ears of the people of this community with startling and almost paralyzing force.

Since the tragic death of the Deputy Warden of the Prison, an increasing responsibility has naturally devolved upon the Warden, Mr. Tenney, who has been the habit of visiting the shops of the prisoners often than before. His ordinary practice was to pass through twice each day, once in the forenoon and once in the afternoon. In accordance with this practice, he was performing his usual duty yesterday afternoon, and at half-past three o'clock was passing through the upholstery shop, where was employed forty-five workmen (convicts), and among them, Charles L. Decatur, a prisoner, who was employed as a upholsterer, and was in the shop of the Municipal Court of Suffolk County, for an aggravated and dangerous assault with a bar of iron, on officer Sawyer of the House of Correction, where he (Decatur) was serving a term for the commission of a larceny.

While passing through the upholstery shop, the Warden paused a moment to converse with the officer in charge, (Mr. T. Dearing), and afterwards, in proceeding through the room, passed the bench where Decatur was at work, who was seen immediately suspend his employment and follow the Warden. This action of Decatur's was observed by officer Dearing, who instinctively sprang forward, but before he could arrest the progress of Decatur, he had sprung from behind the neck of the Warden, and plunged a knife under the shirt, and with such force as to cause it to protrude on the other side.

Mr. Tenney fell almost instantly, without uttering a word, but had time and presence of mind enough before going down to draw a pistol from his dying grasp.

Mr. Dearing seized hold of Decatur and brought him to the floor, when two of the other prisoners in the shop came to the assistance of the officer, and held Decatur fast until he was loaded with iron, after which he was conveyed to a dungeon in the "arch."

As soon as possible, Mr. Dearing caught the wounded Warden in his arms, at which time the blood was flowing in a copious stream from the fatal wound in the neck, and with the assistance of one of the officers, he was conveyed to the named Edward Crowther, brother of the Warden, who was in the upper part of the old wing, where he ceased to breathe within a few minutes, after some apparent but ineffectual attempts to revive him.

It was not until about half-past five, that Deputy Warden Charles W. Walker, brother of the murdered Deputy, met the wounded man on the stairs, and received from him a look of intelligence, which he was immediately succeeded by a closing of the eyes and sinking of the head, as though life had departed.

The conduct of the prisoners in the upholstery shop during the dreadful scene, was most commendable. They displayed little excitement, and at the order of the officer in charge, soon quietly resumed their employment.

Mr. Tenney was a native of Lebanon, N. H., and would have been thirty-three years of age next February. He was appointed to the office of Warden of the State Prison last April. For the ten or twelve years preceding, he had been an officer of different grades in the Boston House of Correction and Suffolk County Jail; being clerk of the latter at the time of his appointment to the Wardenship of the Prison.

In all these capacities he had proved himself a most trustworthy and efficient officer, and his death, and untimely death cannot but prove a severe loss to the institution, which has so suddenly been deprived of its chief officer, and by the heinous act of an inmate, who had received nothing but kindness and attention from the authorities.

Mr. Tenney had been married less than twenty days, and had returned from his wedding tour but a few days previous to his death.

Decatur, the author of this flagrant deed, a native of Kittery, Me., and is only twenty-two years of age. His father died in California about five years ago.

We have heard no possible cause suggested for the commission of the dreadful deed, except that of a possible murder mania which almost seems to have possessed the inmate of this institution. Stories are afloat in the prison to the effect that Decatur yesterday morning significantly asked a prisoner named Mullin if the Warden was coming round that day, and that he would be in before

